

Idle Time Saves...Idle Time

Operator, you just started your dozer and you're ready to move out...right?

Not so fast!

Your dozer is like an athlete who needs to warm up before the race and cool down afterward. If it doesn't warm up and cool down—just like an athlete—major moving parts can break down. Then the dozer will be sitting instead of working.

Here's what you can do to keep your dozer on the job:

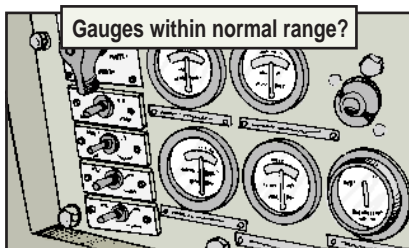
Warm It Up

Immediately after start-up, make sure you have engine oil pressure. Then run the engine at 700–800 rpm for 5 minutes or so to warm up.

That gives the oil time to lubricate the parts. It also lets the engine warm up enough to boil off condensation caused by normal engine breathing. That way, you won't have to worry about condensation mixing with the

oil and forming a sludge that'll clog the engine.

Once you've got the dozer warmed up and operating, check the gauges, especially those for water temperature and engine oil pressure. They should be within the normal operating range.



Cool Down, Too

After you've run that dozer hard, let it cool down before shutting it off. Idle the engine for 5 minutes. The engine needs to cool down slowly, or the heat can crack the block, warp a head or valves, or bake the oil until it's not slick enough to lube the bearings.

